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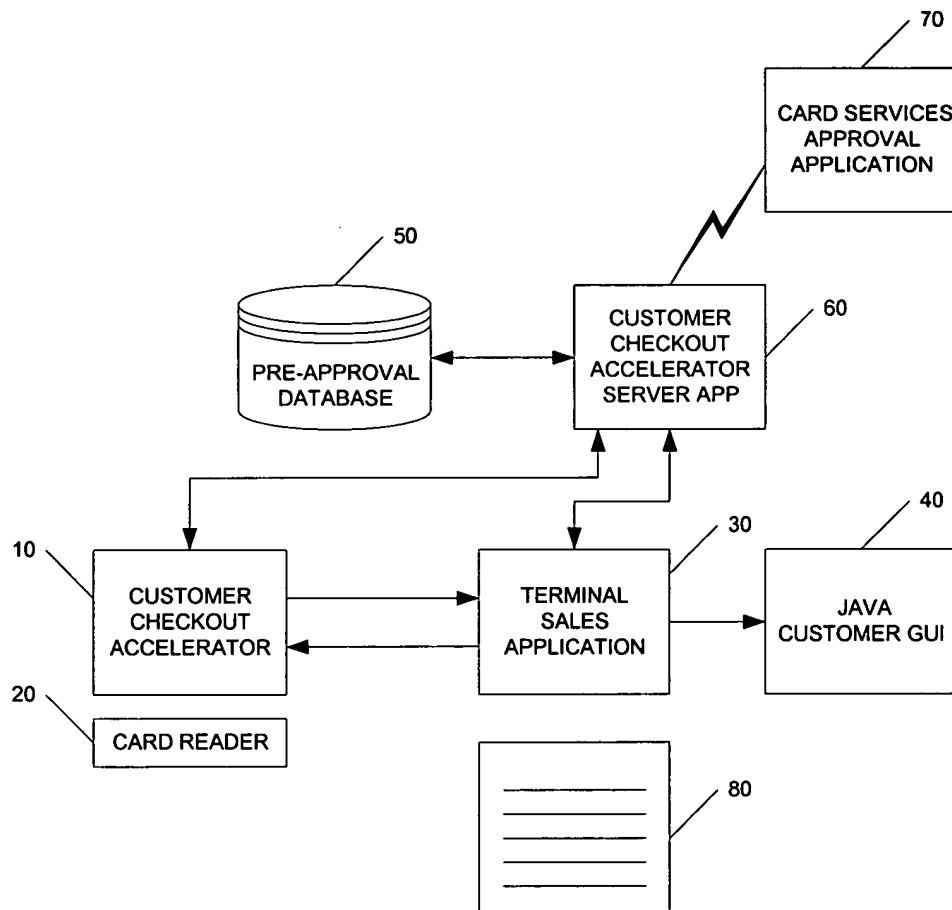


FIG. 1

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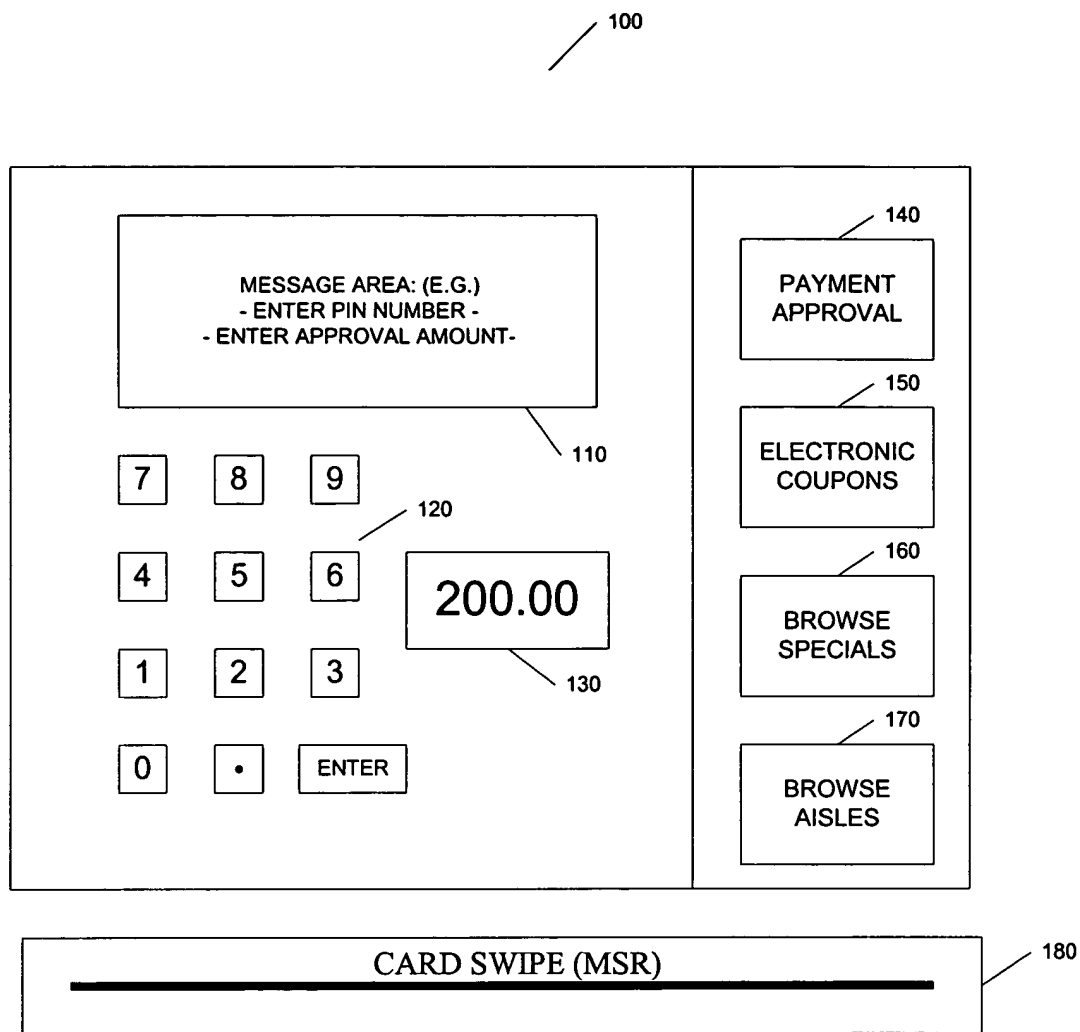
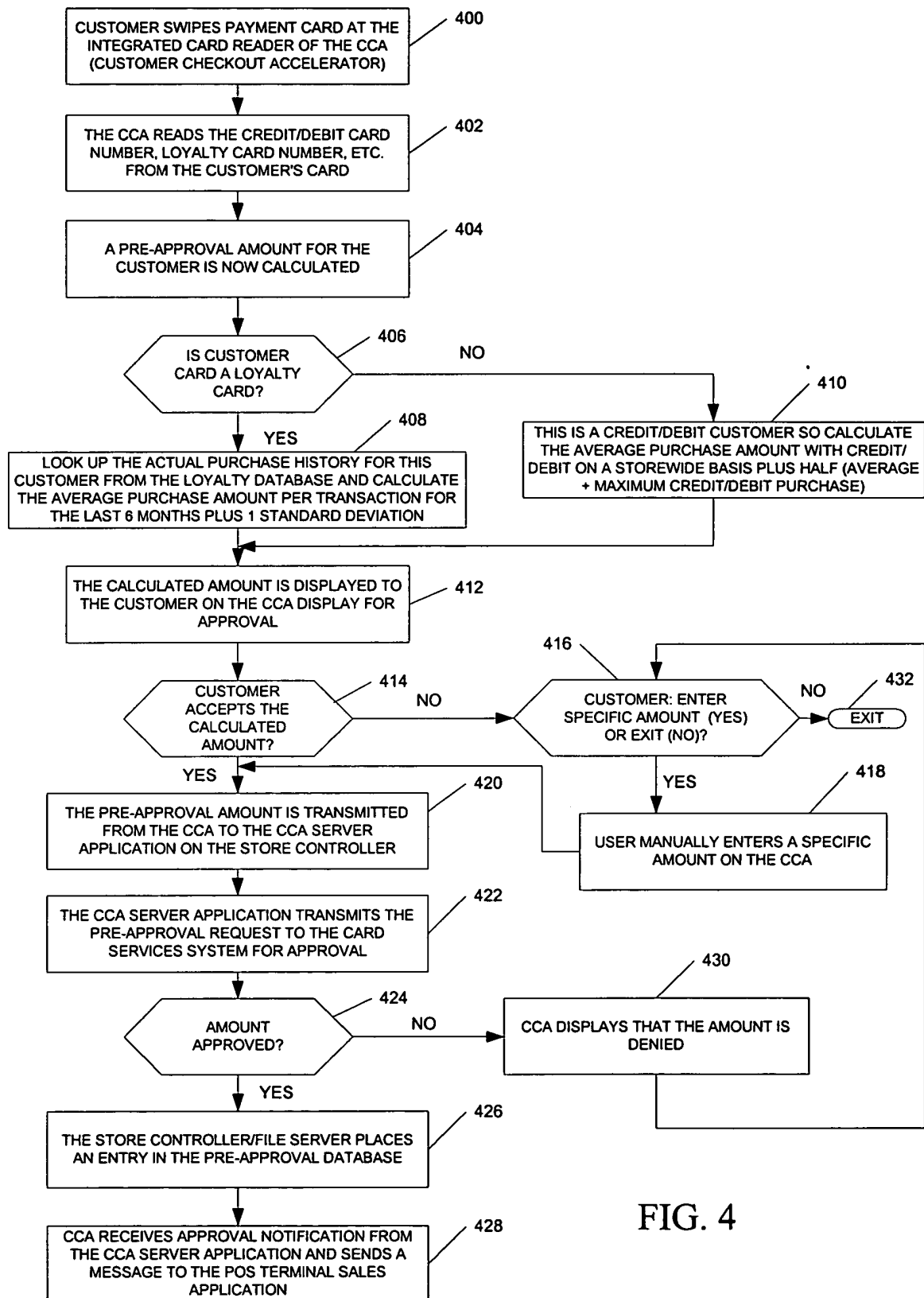


FIG. 2





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graph TD
    500[500 CUSTOMER EVENTUALLY MOVES TO THE POS SYSTEM TO RING UP THE ORDER AND COMPLETE THE SALES TRANSACTION] --> 502[502 THE CUSTOMER SCANS THE PAYMENT CARD AT THE POS SYSTEM]
    502 --> 504[504 THE POS SYSTEM READS THE CREDIT CARD NUMBER]
    504 --> 506{506 IS THERE AN ENTRY IN THE PRE-APPROVAL CACHE FOR THIS PAYMENT CARD}
    506 -- Y --> 508([508 RESUME SALES PROCESSING])
    506 -- N --> 510[510 GET THE PRE-APPROVAL AMOUNT FROM THE PRE-APPROVAL DATABASE ON THE STORE CONTROLLER FILE SERVER AND STORE THE ENTRY IN THE PRE-APPROVAL CACHE]
    510 --> 512([512 DYNAMIC REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AMOUNT DURING TRANSACTION])
    512 --> 514[514 REQUEST ADDITIONAL AMOUNT FROM CARD SERVICES]
    514 --> 516{516 ADDITIONAL AMOUNT APPROVED?}
    516 -- Y --> 518[518 UPDATE THE PRE-APPROVAL CACHE WITH THE INFORMATION]
    518 --> 540[540 COMPARE THE TOTAL WITH THE AMOUNT PREAPPROVED AND CALCULATE THE DELTA AMOUNT]
    540 --> 542[542 UPDATE THE PRE-APPROVAL DATABASE WITH THE ACTUAL AMOUNT OF THE SALE]
    542 --> 544[544 INITIATE TRANSACTION TO RELEASE THE EXCESS AMOUNT (THE DELTA CALCULATED IN 540)]
    516 -- N --> 532[532 PROMPT THE OPERATOR: ADDITIONAL PRE-APPROVAL REQUEST HAS BEEN DENIED]
    532 --> 534{534 CONTINUE THE SALES TRANSACTION OR END}
    534 -- END --> 540
    534 -- CONTINUE --> 536([536 COMPLETE PRINTING OF RECEIPTS AND CREDIT/DEBIT VOUCHERS])
    508 --> 522[522 SELL THE ITEMS IN THE ORDER]
    522 --> 524[524 CALCULATE SUBTOTAL]
    524 --> 526{526 HAS THE SUBTOTAL AMOUNT EXCEEDED THE PRE-APPROVAL AMOUNT?}
    526 -- Y --> 512
    526 -- N --> 528{528 ORDER COMPLETE?}
    528 -- Y --> 530([530 CALCULATE FINAL TOTAL WITH TAXES, COUPONS, ETC.])
    530 --> 540
    528 -- N --> 522
  
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FIG. 5

FIG. 5

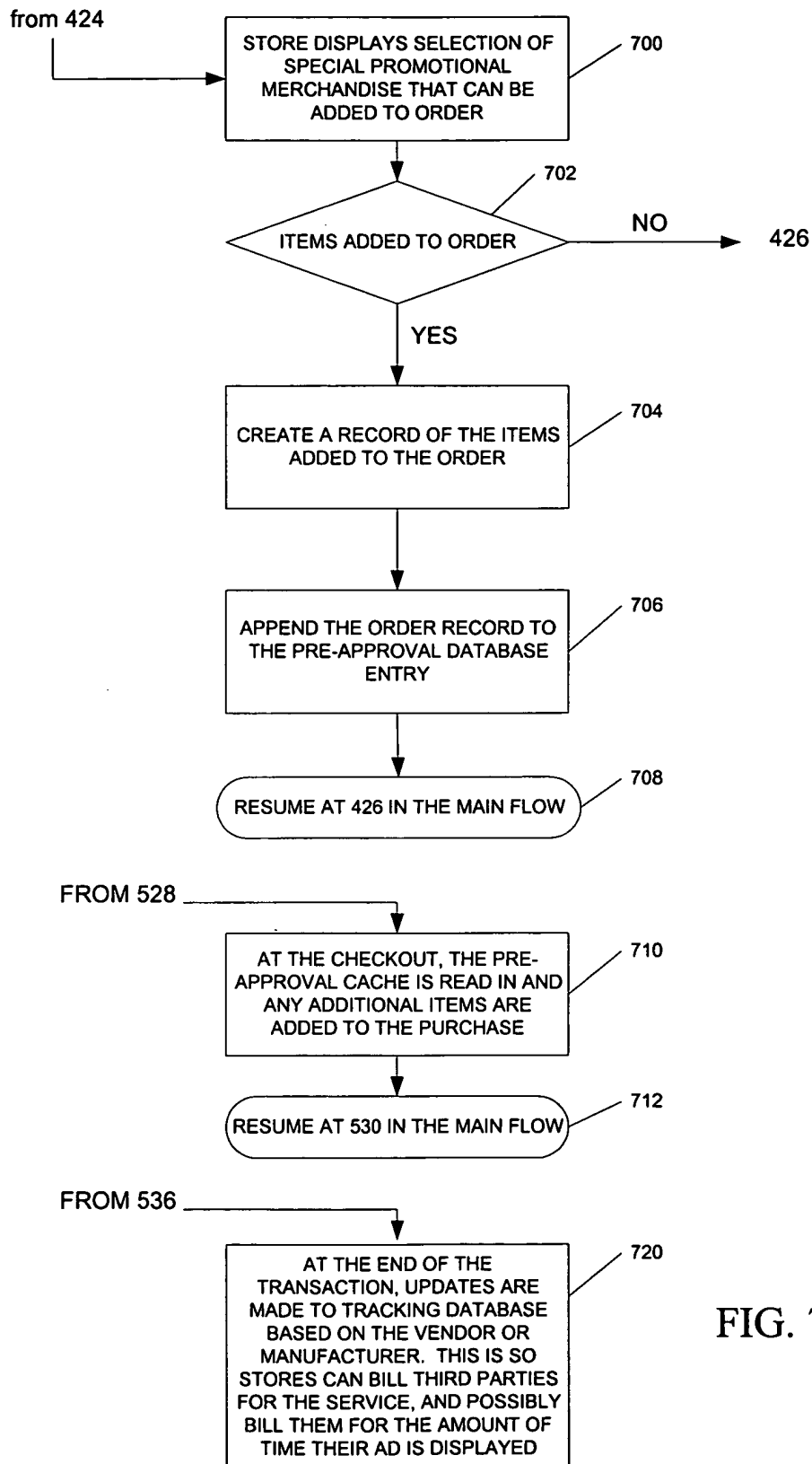


FIG. 7

[illegible]